



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

March 31, 2005

H.R. 798 **Methamphetamine Remediation Research Act of 2005**

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Science on March 17, 2005

SUMMARY

H.R. 798 would establish a new research program for the cleanup of closed laboratories that have been used to produce methamphetamine. This legislation would authorize the appropriation of about \$5 million for each of the fiscal years 2006 through 2009 for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to support such a program. Such efforts by EPA and NIST would include establishing guidelines on assessing sites and cleaning up contaminants, holding a conference to discuss research and guidelines with interested parties, and supporting research for the development of the guidelines and new detection technologies. Finally, the bill would authorize a study by the National Academy of Sciences on the residual effects of methamphetamine.

CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 798 would cost a total of \$20 million over the 2006-2010 period, assuming appropriation of the authorized amounts. Enacting H.R. 798 would not affect direct spending or receipts.

H.R. 798 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA); any standards or guidelines developed by the EPA or NIST for developing and implementing legislation or policies by state and local governments would be voluntary.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 798 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment). For this estimate, CBO assumes that H.R. 798 will be enacted near the start of fiscal year 2006 and that the amounts authorized by the bill will be appropriated near the start of each fiscal year. Estimated outlays are based on historical spending patterns for similar programs.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
EPA Research Program					
Authorization Level	3	3	3	3	0
Estimated Outlays	2	3	3	3	1
NTIS Research Program					
Authorization Level	2	2	2	2	0
Estimated Outlays	1	2	2	2	1
Spending Under H.R. 798					
Authorization Level	5	5	5	5	0
Estimated Outlays	3	5	5	5	2

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 798 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA; any standards or guidelines developed by the EPA or NIST for developing and implementing legislation or policies by state and local governments would be voluntary.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Susanne S. Mehlman

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Leo Lex

Impact on the Private Sector: Jean Talarico

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Peter H. Fontaine

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis